

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PC 1 / EP 2005/001267

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 B01L3/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B01L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 660 233 B1 (MCNEAL JACK D ET AL) 9 December 2003 (2003-12-09) column 2, lines 15-48 column 3, lines 8-34 column 5, line 2 - column 6, line 12; figures 1-26	1-10
X	US 5 556 598 A (KENRICK MICHAEL K ET AL) 17 September 1996 (1996-09-17) column 5, lines 44-61 column 6, lines 3-12 column 6, lines 33-35 column 8, line 59 - column 9, line 53; figures 1-7	1-4, 7, 8

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*G\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

4 April 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

06/05/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Cantalapiedra, I

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

In  
national Application No  
PCT/EP2005/001267

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6660233	B1	09-12-2003	AU 734126 B2 07-06-2001
			AU 1530497 A 11-08-1997
			EP 0819256 A1 21-01-1998
			JP 11502937 T 09-03-1999
			WO 9726539 A1 24-07-1997
			US 2002182117 A1 05-12-2002
US 5556598	A	17-09-1996	CA 2105962 A1 19-03-1994
			DE 69305947 D1 19-12-1996
			DE 69305947 T2 13-03-1997
			EP 0588564 A1 23-03-1994
			JP 6315603 A 15-11-1994
			US 5833927 A 10-11-1998